

North Carolina Standard.

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE UNION OF THE STATES—THEY "MUST BE PRESERVED."

VOLUME XVI

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 13, 1850.

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BY
WILLIAM W. HOLDEN,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Letters to the Editor must come free of postage.

SOUTHERN RIGHTS MEETING.

The papers of Wilmington having announced that a meeting of the citizens of New Hanover county, without distinction of party, would be held in this place, this evening, the 29th January, to consider the present critical situation of affairs in reference to the subject of Slavery—a large and influential portion of the citizens of every part of the County, assembled at the time and place designated.

Samuel R. Potter, Esq., was called to the Chair, and in a lucid and impressive manner explained the object of the meeting.

Dr. Thomas H. Wright and W. C. Bettencourt were requested to act as Secretaries.

Mr. Henry L. Toole, having addressed the meeting in an eloquent and forcible speech, moved

That the Chairman appoint a Committee of six individuals to prepare and report Resolutions for the consideration of the meeting. The chair appointed Dr. Sterling B. Everitt, David Reid, Esq., Col. W. C. Howard, Col. W. N. Peden, Gen. E. L. Marshall, and H. L. Toole.

On motion of Dr. Everitt, the Hon. Rob't. Strange was added to the Committee.

The Committee, after a brief absence, submitted through the Chairman, Dr. Everitt, the following Resolutions:

1. Resolved, That we have witnessed with much anxiety the progress of fanaticism, and political dishonesty at the North, and of excitement at the South, on the subject of slavery.

2. Resolved, That a crisis has arrived, when it becomes necessary for thinking men, at both ends of the Union, to adopt such discreet measures as may avert the consequences likely to flow from this fanaticism, dishonesty and excitement; or if they cannot be averted, so to meet them as to diminish, as much as possible, their evil effects.

3. Resolved, That the Union of the States is not less dear and important to us politically, than to life individually, and we will therefore maintain it at every sacrifice, but that of principle.

4. Resolved, That dear and essential as life to the individual, no brave and virtuous man will consent to hold it at the sacrifice of principle; neither will he yield up principle and honor, even if the maintenance of them should involve the sacrifice of our political and individual existence, in the dissolution of the Union and the bloody consequences likely to flow therefrom.

5. Resolved, That in the hope that it will lead to some peaceful and honorable result for the preservation of the Union, and if that may not be, in any event to a perfect union of action in the Southern States, we recommend that a Convention of Delegates from the several Congressional Districts in this State be held in Raleigh, on the 20th day of April next, for the purpose of considering this subject, and of appointing two Delegates from this State at large to represent the State at the Convention to be held in Nashville, Tennessee, on the first Monday in June next, and that Delegates be appointed for each Congressional District in this State, by Conventions held in said Districts, to represent said Districts in the said Convention to be held at Nashville, and in the Convention to be held at Raleigh.

6. Resolved, That fifty Delegates be appointed by the Chairmen of this meeting to attend the District Convention to be held in Wilmington on the second Monday of March next.

7. Resolved, That the Chairman also be authorized and requested to appoint a Committee of Thirteen to be called a Committee of Safety.

The Resolutions were received and submitted them to the consideration of the meeting, who will consent to the Hon. Robert Strange and David Reid, Esq., by able and eloquent arguments, sustained the Resolutions, showing that they were based upon motives of justice and love for the Union.

The Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

In accordance with the sixth Resolution, the chair appointed the following Delegates to attend the District Convention to be held in Wilmington, on the second Monday in March next, viz:

Messrs. P. K. Dickinson, Joseph Smith, Owen Holmes, Thos. D. Meares, Griffith J. McCrete, Thos. Loring, George Davis, Stephen P. Polley, John C. Wood, Thos. H. Wright, Nicholas N. Nixon, Edward St. George, James M. Foy, John Howard, John Legwin, John D. Jones, Benj. Hall, James Garrison, Thos. H. Williams, Wm. S. Larkin, Reuben Hallett, John Jones, James P. Moore, John McLaughlin, James McIntyre, Sam'l Player, Amos Rochelle, John P. Banerman, Samuel Black, John Shepard, David McIntyre, Isham Armstrong, Norman Lane, Daniel Furel, Levin Lane, Albert G. Hall, Alex. Lamont, James B. Pigford, Thomas H. Tate, Bryan Newkirk, James Kerr, George Fennell, James Hallett, Edmund A. Hayes, Joel L. Moore, Cornelius Murphy, John Eakins, Wm. S. Prigden, Simon Lewis, and Sylvanus P. Wilson.

The following gentlemen constituted the Committee of Vigilance, viz:

Messrs. John S. James, Peter M. Walker, Edward Kidder, Frederick Sullivan, Jethro Ballard, Levi A. Hart, Cornelius Myers, James G. Fane, Henry Watt, Wm. N. Jones, James C. Bowden, L. H. Marshall, and Samuel Potter.

Dr. A. J. DeRosset, Jr., submitted the following Resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Chairman forward a copy of the proceedings of the meeting to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a request that they lay them before each house of Congress.

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the Hon. Robert Strange for his able and highly satisfactory address, and that he be requested to furnish a copy thereof for publication.

On motion of T. D. Meares, Esq., it was Resolved, That the Chairman be requested to forward copies of these proceedings to the National Intelligence and Washington Union, with the request that they would publish them; and that Editors be requested to publish the same in the several papers of this State.

The proceedings of the meeting, while they evinced a devoted attachment to the Union, exhibited a unity of disposition and a firm and solemn resolve to sustain to the letter the spirit of the Resolutions of the Committee.

SAMUEL R. POTTER, Chairman.
T. H. WRIGHT, W. C. BETTENCOURT, Secretaries.

The meeting, which was held in the Court House, on Tuesday evening last, was characterized by the spirit of unity. It was totally irrespective of party. It was free from anything like undue excitement. Its object was to allay sectional feeling, not to arouse it, and the addresses delivered on the occasion also partook of the prevailing spirit of the hour. There was no angry or sweeping denunciations of the North, but a clear, simple, and dispassionate statement of the

position which affairs had assumed, and of the course which a defence of her own honor and interests requires the South to pursue.

The organization of the meeting will be found reported in the official proceedings. The address of Mr. Potter, on taking the Chair, was, indeed, "lucid and expressive," and the short speech of Mr. Toole was appropriate and to the point. During the absence of the Committee on Resolutions, Mr. Reid, in an address of some twenty minutes in length, forcibly recounting the series of insults and aggressions to which the South has been subjected, and showing the necessity of united action at the present time.

After the presentation of the resolutions, Hon. Robert Strange—who had attended the meeting at the written request of several of our most influential citizens of both parties—being called upon, made a most eloquent address. It was such an address as might have been expected from a Southern statesman and a friend of the Union, and met with the unanimous approval of the meeting; indeed, we have heard but one opinion expressed in regard to it—that it was just what was needed to settle the question of action at this crisis. Judge S. showed that the resolutions were based upon love and respect for the Union. That every one felt that if the threatened aggressions upon Southern rights were carried into effect, no earthly power could prevent a dissolution; no Southern man, not recreant to all honor and principle, could wish to prevent it. That, therefore, it was the duty of the South to take such action as would tend to prevent the consummation of measures which must inevitably result in disunion. He believed that nothing but the exhibition of a firm and united front, on the part of the Southern people, could avert this calamity. That it was their imperative duty to adopt such measures as would tend to prevent the consummation of measures which must inevitably result in disunion. He believed that nothing but the exhibition of a firm and united front, on the part of the Southern people, could avert this calamity.

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For the North Carolina Standard.

THE TWO MOST GROWING NATIONS IN THE WORLD

Russia and the United States. The one stands for the representative of the monarchical principle, ready to rush down upon the rest of Europe and overwhelm her. Guided by a man of talents, of energy, with her immense hordes dependant upon his will and submission to his order—Nicholas is the perfect embodiment of the aristocratic principle; and the time seems about to arrive which was predicted by Napoleon from his exile, when Europe will be either Republican or Cossack.

Another crisis too is at hand in which we feel more immediately and deeply interested. The United States is the representative of the Republican principle. With quick strides she has marched on to greatness. While all other nations of the earth seem either to have arrived at their zenith or are on a retrograde movement, these two nations appear to be rapidly rising in importance and progressing to the position of the two most powerful governments in the world.

Shall the United States go on and prosper and fulfill the destiny which appears marked out for her? The crisis is at last about to arrive so long predicted by politicians. It must now be determined whether or not the South are to be regarded in the United States as equals. The Governors of the two great States of New York and Pennsylvania have declared in their messages to the tone and temper of which we have nothing to object—their opposition to the admission of any more slave territory into the Union. Gov. Fish says: "The emphatic voice of the legislature of New York is in favor of the resolutions passed at their last two sessions, and the nearly unanimous sentiment of the people of our State, have declared that under no circumstances will their consent be given to the extension of slavery into those territories from which it is now excluded."

New York loves the Union of the States. She will not contemplate the possibility of its dissolution, and sees no reason to calculate the enormity of such a calamity.

She also loves the cause of human freedom; and sees no reason to abstain from an avowal of her attachment. While therefore, she holds fast to the one, she will not forsake the other."

Gov. Johnson of Pennsylvania says—speaking of new slave States to be admitted into the Union: "The present limits disclose a very different feature—that is from not meddling with it in its present limits. 'The consent of the free States of the Union to its further progress, would evince an ignorance of their true interests, of the rights of justice and humanity, and an indifference to the character and dignity of their common country. Where these are implicated it is an abandonment of duty to compromise.'"

If these be the firm determinations of the people of the North, I can see no hope for the preservation of the Union. For one I boldly declare I would sooner see the Union dissolved, fearful and enormous as the consequences would be, than we should give up our rights. That the States of the North, with the tariff systems of the North, are but a series of attempts to render our property valueless. Great Britain by a similar course of policy has totally ruined the West Indies, and they are fast returning to the jungle and the forest. It behooves us as free and independent men to bodily resist these invasions of our rights. It is a war of invasion upon us—they are the attacking party. Let us be firm and united upon this question. If we fail in sustaining our rights, let us fall with the proud consciousness of having performed our duty. The Hungarians in exile and poverty are more esteemed and honored than in wealth and prosperity, after their many efforts for the liberty of their country.

Georgia has taken a noble stand on this question. By her manufacturers, her internal improvements, her native intellect, and her manly conduct, she is fast rearing up herself the position of the first of the Southern States. Let North Carolina be found by her side upon this great question. Let her Governor be authorized to call a convention of the people, provided the Wilmot proviso be passed. The time for action has arrived.

Gov. Fish says "New York does not stoop to count the number nor the magnitude of her concessions on this subject." Is it not evident to the world that this is a war of aggression on the part of the North, and that we alone for the sake of the Union have made concessions? We alone have yielded, and further concessions only we are to make. Who yielded? Certainly not the North. Who yielded on the tariff? Not the North. But the South, from a pure love of the Union, paid this gratuity into the pockets of the North, and now, like the viper, she would bite the hand which gave her vitality. The time has come when Southern men must stand up for their rights! The crisis has arrived! Does not the constitution guarantee to us our slaves? Who now thinks of recovering one who escapes to the North? Has not the conduct of the Northern States rendered this article of the constitution a mere nullity? Such was not the practice during the early days of the Republic. If we yield on this question now this great Republic is gone. Some future historian will then have to tell its rapid rise and progress and its premature decay.

It depends upon you, Southern people, whether this shall be.

ALQUIUS.

For the North Carolina Standard.

MR. EDITOR: The "Times" has got to be very bad off for "aid and comfort" when it has to resort to such poor aid to support its sinking cause as quotations from the Charlotte Journal. A paper of less weight perhaps in the State, cannot be found, than this same Charlotte Journal! I see you never quote from it nor notice it in any way since Badger left it; and I suppose it is because it is at this time not edited. The publisher does not have an Editor employed now, but as Eccles of the Lincoln Courier says, "the moment of publishing away at the discretion of the printer."

This paper—the Charlotte Journal—has no influence here whatever—has a very small subscription list, and its publisher is never deferred to or conferred with by the Whig party. Its existence is nearly a pseudo one, except about every fourth year, or Presidential electioneering campaign, when an Editor is employed and it spurs up a little. Any notice of the Journal in your paper, even this brief reference to it will make it feel very proud, and it will prick up its little ears and stamp its little feet when it sees this, and cavort around equal to any little broken down nag that you ever saw on its way to the jockey club field; but it will not make the Charlotte Journal feel big that I introduced its name into your paper—it was only to show that great compass the "Times" can boast of as agreeing with it.

CHARLOTTE, JANUARY, 1850.

THE FORTUNES OF M. LAMARTINE. A French journal gives some particulars of the estate recently bestowed by the Sultan on M. de Lamartine. It is said to be large as the Isle of Wight, being about fifty-four miles in circumference. It has hitherto been longed only to the crown, as we should say in England. The soil is described as wonderfully fertile, like most of the land in the neighborhood of Smyrna, as being well planted with oranges and olives, and as capable of every variety of cultivation. The chateau built for the residence of an imperial officer, is commanded by the usual run of Turkish houses; and under the windows lies a fine lake of more than a mile across, which is described as well stocked with fish. The estate includes five villages. M. de Lamartine, it is said, goes to Asia Minor in the spring, to take possession in person of his territorial gift.

James Gordon Bennett, sometimes called the Napoleon of the Press, was born and bred among the heath-clad hills of Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

For the North Carolina Standard.

OUR NEXT GOVERNOR.

The last year was characterized by the most extraordinary events which have probably occurred in the same space of time. The revolutions in Europe, our war with Mexico, and the acquisition of California and the discovery of its inexhaustible gold mines, seem destined to change the whole course of political events and mark this as one of the epochs of history. We indeed live in perilous times, when important events are not fixed; every thing appears to be in a transition state. Our own country seems on the brink of a volcano which is about to engulf it. The elements of our political chaos are disturbed, and it is necessary that men of talents should be at the helm of State to guide it safe through the storm.

The time approaches when we should look around and see whom we should place there. In the coming contest between the North and South, the position of North Carolina is one of peculiar interest. Always staid and sober in her habits, never running into extremes nor acting from impulse and passion—the exposition of her views and determination is looked upon as the decision of wise and prudent councils, and always treated with that respect which such a position commands.

Let us therefore be careful in selecting for her Chief Magistrate a man who is capable of sustaining her high reputation for wisdom and virtue. I know she possesses many sons worthy of the station and worthy of herself. To make a selection from among so many worthy to fill the office, who would please all, is no easy task. There is one man, however, to whom I believe no democrat would have any objection. Under that conviction, I propose the name of Mr. Douglas, of Fayetteville, as the next Democratic candidate for the office of Governor of the State of North Carolina. He is a gentleman of a high order of talents, incorruptible integrity, and unwavering in his principles. His high-minded and honorable course during the last Legislature, secured for him the admiration of his friends, and the respect of his opponents. A democrat in his political principles—a decided one; yet he is a Carolinian by birth, by feeling, by interest, and whatever he does will be for the honor and interest of the whole State. Above all, too, he is true to the South upon that question which is now of such vital importance to the Union. Let the Democratic party therefore, unite upon a man so worthy of being their standard bearer, and success is inevitable. Who can doubt its success where it has such a leader and such a cause? The Union is certainly in danger. Let wise men govern our councils, and rule our government, and save us from the abyss of ruin. The Democratic party is the only party which has ever governed the country with consistent wisdom and integrity. Let it succeed to power, and the country may yet be saved. It can do so by selecting such candidates as the people can entirely confide in. Such is the man whom I have presented to the notice of the party. Nominate him therefore, fellow Democrats, and your banner will wave in triumph next August.

DAVID COVEY, FEBRUARY, 1850.

CONVENTION AT NASHVILLE. We observe that the Southern press is strongly recommending the Convention proposed to be held at Nashville, Tennessee. We confess that this is a subject of which we scarcely know what to think. It is certainly one to which we turn with a heavy heart. That the time should ever come, when it can be a question, whether this glorious Confederation of States should be dissolved, is a consummation most devoutly to be deprecated. And still, at present, we can see no other alternative. The fanatics, having tried the work of defamation in vain—and having found themselves completely overthrown in argument—have at length resolved to try what can be done by force, and have accordingly concentrated their influence in Congress, with the hope of forcing through some legal enactment which may be regarded as an entrenchment on the rights of the South. The proposed abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, as also that in the territories, confined within the latitude of the slave-holding States, is so palpable a violation of the Federal Constitution, that we need not how it can be borne by the Southern States. We devoutly pray that the current of mischief may be arrested in Congress. We can but hope, indeed, that there are wisdom, and virtue, and patriotism still left with the representatives of this nation, to respect the Constitution, to put down the spirit of faction, and to confine the legislation of Congress to legitimate and useful subjects. But should this not be the case, we see no alternative but to rule in such an assembly. If moderation, and forbearance, and wisdom, and patriotism, are ever needed, they must be needed on such an occasion.

We can but hope, therefore, that North Carolina will represent herself in the proposed Nashville Convention; and that men will be sent distinguished for their clear and cool judgment, and for the purity of their settled and disinterested patriotism; and that the selection will be made without respect to party.

BIBLICAL RECORD.

SOUTHERN MEN WITH NORTHERN PRINCIPLES.—It was the habit a few years ago to decry Mr. Van Buren as a northern man with Southern principles; and we find the same persons, with some honorable exceptions, now when the south is in the utmost jeopardy, and calling all her children to stand by her in the extremities likely to be forced upon her, denouncing the faithful statesmen which the south contains, as traitors.

Such is the expression of an editorial in the New York Herald, and we are glad to see that paper did not print that paragraph and so believe; but whoever wrote it, he should be lashed north of the Potomac by whips in the hands of all honest men of both parties.

If Mr. Calhoun and Gov. Troup, and Gov. Thomas, and Gov. Floyd, and Gov. Collier, and Gov. and Clemons, and Daniel and Venable, and hundreds of as good men and true, are Catholics, what are these scribblers? They are false traitors to the earth which bore them, and to the people who sustain them, and whom in return they seek to mislead for parizan purposes. They are in fact southern men with northern principles, and it were best they should emigrate at once to a region where they can find a proper livelihood.

These persons utterly mislead the present spirit of the south. They can no longer be frightened by ghosts conjured up by political trickery. They know their rights and dare maintain them.

Wilmington Aurora.

THE TRIUMPH OF PRINCIPLE. Speaking of the late great Speech of Gen. Cass on the Slavery question, the Hillsborough Democrat well observes:

"It is a matter worthy of remark that at the same time when Gen. Cass was urging his policy of non-intervention in the Senate, on which he lost his election, his successful rival Gen. Taylor had sent a special message to the House urging the application of the same identical doctrine.

The friends of Gen. Cass have cause to congratulate themselves on this triumph of principle over policy—this testimony of our opponents to the wisdom of the plan advised by our leader. All doubt as to the sincerity and honesty of Gen. Cass, in the position which he has maintained through so much opposition, have now vanished from the public mind; and he is now hailed everywhere as a patriot, desirous of settling this exciting question.

Why is President Taylor like the Pope of Rome? Because his great State papers are all "bulls."

THE NATURAL BRIDGE.

The scene opens with a view of the great Natural Bridge in Virginia. There are three or four lads standing in the channel below, looking up with awe to that vast arch of unknown rocks, which the Almighty bridged over those everlasting abutments, "when the morning stars sang together."

The little place of sky spanning those measureless piers, is fully to his full length, it finds itself a mile, or five hundred feet from where they stand, up those perpendicular bulwarks of limestone, to the key rock of that vast arch, which appears to them only the size of a man's hand. The silence of death is rendered more impressive by the little stream that falls from rock to rock down the channel. The sun is darkened, and the boys have unconsciously uncovered their heads as if standing in the presence chamber of the Majesty of the whole earth. At last this feeling begins to wear away; they begin to look around them; they find that others have been there before them. They see the name of hundreds cut in the limestone abutments. A new feeling comes over their young hearts, and their knives are in their hands in an instant. "What have we done?" they cry, and they watch, while they draw themselves up and carve their names a foot above those of a hundred long grown men who have been there before them.

They are all satisfied with this feat of physical exertion except one, whose example illustrates perfectly the forgotten truth that there is no royal road to intellectual eminence. This ambitious youth sees a name just above his reach, a name that will be in the memory of the world, when those of Alexander, Caesar, and Bonaparte shall rot in oblivion. It was the name of Washington. Before he marched with Braddock to that fatal field, he had been there, and left his name a foot above his predecessor. It was a glorious thought that of the boy, to write his name side by side with that of the great father of his country. He grasps his knife with a firmer hand; and clinging to a little jutting crag, he cuts again into the limestone, about a foot above where he stands, he then reaches up and cuts another for his hands. 'Tis a dangerous adventure; but as he puts his feet and hands into those grains, and draws himself up carefully to his full length, he finds himself a foot higher every name chronicled in that mighty wall. While his companions are regarding him with concern and admiration, he cuts his name in rude capitals, large and deep, into that flinty album. His knife is still in his hand, and strength in his sinews, and a new created aspiration in his heart.

Again he cuts another niche, and again he carves his name in large capitals. This is not enough. Heedless of the entreaties of his companions, he cuts and climbs again. The gradations of his ascending scale grow wider apart. He measures his length at every gain he cuts. The voices of his friends wax weaker and weaker, till their words are finally lost in the roar of his own breathing. He has reached the top of the last niche, and he looks down at his companions below. What a moment! There is no retracing his steps. It is impossible to put his hands into the same niche with his feet and retain his slender hold a moment. His companions instantly see his new and fearful dilemma, and await his word with anxious hearts. His comrades below, too, are high, too faint, to ask for his father and mother, his brothers and sisters, to come and witness or avert his destruction. But one of his companions anticipates his desire. Swift as the wind he bounds down the channel, and the situation of the fated boy is told upon the father's heart-stone.

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There stand his father, mother, brother and sister, on the very spot where, if he falls, he will not fall alone. The danger is now upon the whole party. The last made fifty additional niches in that mighty wall and now finds himself directly under the middle of that vast arch of rocks, earth and trees. He must cut his way in a new direction to get from under this overhanging mountain. The inspiration of hope is dying in his bosom; his vital heat is fed by the increasing shouts of hundreds perched upon cliffs and crags, and others who stand with ropes in their hands on the bridge above, or with ladders below. Fifty gains more must be cut before the longest rope can reach him. His wasting blade strikes again into the limestone. The boy is emerging painfully, foot by foot, from under that lofty arch. Spilled ropes are ready in the hands of those who are leaning over the outer edge of the bridge. Two minutes more, and he will be over. The blade is worn to the last half inch. The boy's head reels; his eyes are starting from their sockets. His last hope is dying in his heart; his life must hang upon the next gain he cuts. That niche is his last. At the last faint gasp he makes, his knife, his faithful knife, falls from his nerveless hand, and rings along the perpendicular face of his mother's face. In an involuntary groan of despair runs like a death knell through the channel below and all is still as the grave. At the height of nearly three hundred feet, the devoted boy lies his head toward heaven and closing eyes to commend his soul to God. 'Tis but a moment—there!—one foot swings off!—he is reeling—trembling—toppling over to eternity! Hark! it is about falls on his ear from above! The man who is lying with half his length over the bridge has caught a glimpse of the boy's head and shoulders. Quick as thought the noosed rope is within the reach of the sinking youth. No one breathes. With a faint, convulsive effort the swooning boy drops his arm into the noose. Darkness comes over him, and with the words God! and then! he whispers on his lips just loud enough to be heard in heaven, the tightening rope lifts him out of the last shallow niche. Not a lip moves while he is dangling over that fearful abyss, but when a sturdy Virginian reaches down and draws up the lad, and holds him up in his arms before the fearful, breathless multitude, such shouting, leaping and weeping for joy, never greeted the ear of human being so recovered from the yawning gulf of eternity.

Anonymous.

A CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY. A portion of the Indiana Democracy has nominated Gen. Joseph Lane, of that State, as a candidate for the Presidency in 1852. Gen. Lane, it will be remembered, was appointed Governor of Oregon Territory by President Polk, and recalled by President Taylor.

He is a native of this State, and has figured successfully